

# THE BELL RINGER



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MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY

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## The Yugoslavian Conflict Hits Home with Kozi Kozomara in our midst

Bo Sundius

Once, the most peaceful and liveable country of the eastern-bloc countries was Yugoslavia. Now, however, Yugoslavia has been ignited by the flames of civil war. Yugoslavia, having estranged itself from Moscow, is now pleading for peace. What was once only ethnic disputes has now evolved into the first full scale European war since 1945. After June 15, 1991, which is the official date of Croatia's secession, there has been continual fighting, only broken by the superficial terms of cease-fires that have lasted for a maximum of two days.

Being unable to let go of Croatia and Slovenia, which is a small republic to the north of Croatia that has joined with the rebel forces, the other four republics, dominated by Serbians, have either joined forces with the Yugoslavian National Army in a full scale war to retrieve the unruly republics, or remained neutral. Serbian National forces immediately began to ransack the Croatian border by air, ground, and sea. Forces along the frontline

have been able to be relieved on the Serbian side, but the Croatian guerilla tactics have been able to give up only a small portion of the new republic. Meanwhile, Yugoslavian warplanes have been bombing key cities and specific areas of unrest, while the National Army has been blockading ports and port towns. Caught in the middle is Bosnia-Herzegovina, a small republic that has declared itself neutral. This area has been the scene of heavy military aggression. The peaceful state has now become a battlefield for Croatian and Serbian forces.

Several cease-fires have been stated but have quickly disintegrated on account of both sides. Since Yugoslavia is broken down into six republics with a president from each and no apparent central government, a treaty agreeable to all sides has been impossible. Backed by Soviet weaponry, the support of the United States and most of Europe, Serbia is unwilling to capitulate to Croatia's liberation, and prolonged tension has kept diplomacy out

of the picture. Peacetalks with guns aimed at each other cause the falling out of any agreement made. After so many feigned talks of peace, neither side is able to trust the other and European or American intervention might be necessary.

With the thought of a new European coalition, the Yugoslavian conflict should give Europe the chance to show that it can manage its own security. Unfortunately, any European security policies have been abandoned, and the super-powers of Europe have been at odds because Italy and Germany would like to recognize Croatia and Slovenia, but England and other members of the community insist on a single Yugoslavia. Despite the death and despair this conflict has caused, this civil war has shown that Europe is still not a single force and the civil war may give ideas of similar unrest to the many European countries with national strife.

During the past few months, Yugoslavia's civil

*continued on page 2*



Dr. Michael Drake, assistant headmaster and AP American History teacher, will leave MBA after approximately 20 years of faithful and meritorious service. A more complete story will be in the next issue of *The Bell Ringer*.

## \$500 Dollars Short: MBA Economics Team Almost Goes to Hawaii

On December 8, MBA took its highly notorized Economics team into action at the Belmont Massey Business Center.

The competition included some 30 teams from the midstate. The game in which the teams competed is

called *Meese*.

It is a simulated economy with the teams being free-enterprisers, able to make decisions in the following areas: price, production, capital investment, marketing, and research and development.

MBA's team was composed of Eric Greenwood, Greg Stuart, Greg Jones, Tad Wood, and Hunter Connelly; it was meticulously trained by economic guru Crom Carmichael, also known as The Crom.

In the semi-final round our team breezed through the field easily taking first place. The committee in charge of the competition witnessed MBA's obvious economic prowess and knew that something must be done in order to ensure a competitive final round.

Economics teacher, Mr. Forehand, thinks there could have been a conspiracy

*continued on page 2*

## Boys Club News

Sachin Vaikunth and Flag  
Youngblood

Three years ago under the direction of Mr. Moxley and Susan Haywood, MBA started a tutoring program for children in grades 1-6 at the Nashville chapter of the Boys and Girls Club. The program's aim at the time was to aid those students at the Club who were having trouble with their schoolwork.

Today the program, however, has surpassed its original expectations by providing alternative role models for these children, in addition to aiding them in their academic

*continued on page 3*

## The Davis Building: MBA's future on the Rise

Andrew Vahrenkamp

Construction of the new fine arts building, named after longtime trustee Joe C. Davis, has been on schedule and is due to be completed in September, according to the administration. Sources say that the building was 25% finished as of January 1. If an unexpected delay were to occur, the only part that would not be completed by next year would be the auditorium,

which would then be available by mid-October at the latest.

The new building



will provide extra facilities for the up-and-coming fine arts program, as well as a new

cafeteria so that the crowds resulting from this year's scheduling will be reduced.

Also included in the structure are a new and improved darkroom for photography, a kiln and display hall for the art program, performance halls for the chorus and jazz band, and dressing and "green" rooms for a new drama department.

*continued on page 2*

## NEWS

... Kozi continued from page 1

war has been overshadowed by the recognition of the Baltic states. The reasons for Croatia's wish for independence have been stereotyped as ethnic rivalries, but according to Kozi Kozomara, who left Yugoslavia in the middle of August and in the middle of the conflict, this conflict is based upon much more than ethnic disputes. "Croatia thinks that the Yugoslavian economy is bad, and they think they can do better on their own," says the Bosnia-Herzegovian Yugoslav. But Kozi remains skeptical on Croatia's ability to survive on its own; "they have no chance except from German and Austrian help. Germany would help them in exchange for Croatia's seaside access." When asked what future a

split Yugoslavia would hold, Kozi replied, "It would be like if Tennessee decided to split from America and change its laws and money." Kozi also fears that Yugoslavia would suffer with the absence of Croatia and the economic situation for both parties would be disastrous.

The situation in Yugoslavia is getting worse by the day. A cease-fire summoned by one of the Yugoslav forces now seems unlikely, and Kozi, as well as many other Yugoslavians, feel that foreign aid must be applied, particularly by Europe. The ultimate goal must be a united Yugoslavia, otherwise his homeland will be broken down into several independent pieces. Kozi feels the best solution would

be a European sanctioned cease-fire and the establishment of a sound economy. The economy, in Kozi's mind, is the key, for he feels that Croatia is basing its independence on its own selfishness; "business is the reason for their want of independence, only business; the wasting of lives is nothing, only money!" The region where Kozi is from lies on the Serbian side of the border, but it is being ravaged by both sides, since it sits in the crossfire of the two forces.

The Yugoslavian situation is deteriorating, and a cease-fire seems far away, but something must be done before too many more lives are wasted in this fruitless civil war. Hopefully, both sides will come to their senses and a peaceful resolution will evolve.

... Economics from page 1

involved because for some reason the style of the game was changed for the finals.

Not knowing about the change and still operating with our delicate strategy, MBA took a hard loss at the outset.

We proved, however, that we weren't a bunch of trained robots by adjusting our game-plan and underselling our opponents.

At one point in the competition, an altercation took place and words were exchanged between between two other teams who could not withstand the pressure and intensity of the competition.

The tempers flared when USN decided to start

some economic trouble. They were in last place and out of contention, so they decided to put the whole economy in a recession hurting all the teams. A Goodpasture team member who had to be restrained was heard saying, "I'll get those long-hairs!"

At any rate MBA rebounded, and, with the help of an idea from Tad Wood, we made a challenge for the championship. In the end we came up short by just \$500.

While the team was disappointed they did not move on to the nationals in Honolulu, they did consider the competition a success for MBA's economics program.

## News from F.C.A

Bo Bartholomew  
Hunter Connelly

The Fellowship of Christian athletes had a great first semester.

Speakers such as William Ewing and Don Admire, the Champion skit, and the Chubby Bunny Contest filled up the lives of many MBA students.

Grant Seshul, Hunter Connelly, John Arendale, and Bo Bartholomew head up the program and look forward to a great and exciting 2nd semester.

This semester promises an exciting Ocoee Trip for a rafting excursion and a concert to appease everyone's musical yearnings. Harpeth Hall has asked to participate in a lot of our meetings.

Co-ed meetings will occur often for those who will only come to these meetings. FCA will be fun and exciting, so come out and join us!

## Hart Hardware

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Prosper!

## Knight to King's Pawn Four

Andrew Vahrenkamp

So far, the MBA Chess Club has been extremely successful this year. Having only three members last year, membership has grown by 2000% to over forty members, a truly remarkable accomplishment.

Led by president Winn Keathley, VP Andrew Vahrenkamp, secretary Russell Acosta, treasurer Greg Holyfield, and sergeant-at-arms Tom Hamling, the club has exceeded even the officers' high expectations, and in fact challenged Brentwood High to a competition

in early December. The Bruins, however, declined due to "scheduling difficulties" with a band recital.

On December 14, the team returned to Brentwood to participate in the prestigious Brentwood Invitational Tournament with representatives from some of the Mid-State's finest scholastic chess teams.

Even though our players fell short in the JV, in the highly-contested Varsity division, Jason Bennett, Winn, and Andrew all finished tied for first with identi-

cal 3-1 records.

Unfortunately, according to the tie-breaking system in use, none of the three won the tournament, but instead Winn placed second and Andrew finished third.

This year's chess team is anchored by Winn with Greg, Ben Curtis, Tom, Vlado Kozomara, Andrew, and Diego Rocha all playing exceptionally well.

The real test comes in March, when we host the State Tournament with the Tennessee's top teams.

... Davis Building from page 1

While the possibility of there being a senior lounge was only a rumor, the building will contain numerous exciting areas of study for MBA students.

Furthermore, other areas of the campus will be refurbished. Wallace Hall, having already been rid of asbestos, will be made into more classrooms for math, English, and foreign languages.

Similarly, the Art and Speech Building will be devoted solely to debate, and will feature better facilities including computers. The

Ball Building, if sufficient funds are appropriated, will be completely remodeled, with the administration office space redistributed and elevators installed to reflect the school's increased commitment to the handicapped and/or disabled.

In fact, all the new buildings will have this facility available for those students for whom stairs are difficult obstacles.

Indeed, this eagerly anticipated building will be a welcome addition to student life.

## Nashville Orthopaedic Associates, P.A.

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## OPINIONS

# Letters to the Editor

## ♪♪♪ A Vocal Refrain for the Chorus ♪♪♪

Dear Bell Ringer,

I would like to comment on the letter in the December 17 issue of *The Bell Ringer* by Matt Foster. While appreciating Matt's interest in the chorus and his frustration in the current situation, I feel that his letter contains several misconceptions.

First of all, Matt stated that Dr. Paschall was too busy with the new fine arts building to hire a new choral

director.

Actually, Dr. Paschall hired two choral directors, both of whom decided not to accept the position after they were hired.

It is difficult to find a quality individual for this job, since it is a part-time position. Current plans are to expand the music faculty at MBA to 2 full-time positions, thus being able to attract a top choral person, just as Dr. Paschall attracted me to MBA after

many years as strictly a band director.

I also feel that Mrs. Ross has done a good job with the chorus, as shown in the quality of the December 7 concert.

While it may not have been up to concerts of the past, it was a fine performance considering the lack of numbers in the chorus.

How could any director achieve excellence with declining numbers?

There are approximately 20 chorus members and 10 jazz band members out of almost 500 students.

If the chorus and jazz band are to improve, the numbers must grow. Are all of these former chorus members just going to whine about the good old days?

I challenge all MBA students to join either the band or the chorus. Improvement will then be immediate and substantial in these or-

ganizations. With the new building, scheduling for these groups will improve, but why wait until next year? At the start of this new semester, be a part of music at MBA. If you want the chorus to improve, be a part of it!!

Sincerely,

Steve Rundberg

Dear Bell Ringer,

In Matt Foster's article last issue, he claimed that the Chorus seems to be going downhill quickly. However, Matt forgot to mention some important facts in his article that I feel are necessary to rectify.

Matt's history of the Chorus is fairly accurate. It is true that the Chorus improved considerably when Mr. Michael Kemp became director. Students were taught how to read music and the Chorus did perform with Harpeth Hall and Saint Cecilia. However, one important note must be included. During the school

year 1990-1991, when Kemp was still director, the membership of the Chorus dropped from forty students to twenty-one. That decrease was a much larger number of students than those that we lost this year.

Matt tries to paint a picture of students fleeing the Chorus when Mr. Kemp left the Chorus because of scheduling problems or a course load that was hard enough without losing another study hall. Only one senior dropped out because of his discontent with the Chorus and that was Matt himself.

Matt contends that the administration is all to

blame, but I disagree. I have talked to Dr. Paschall and I believe in his commitment to the fine arts at this school, including the Chorus. He did make a conscious effort to find a replacement for Mr. Kemp, as Matt would find out if he talked to our headmaster. Dr. Paschall did not abandon the Chorus while constructing a building designed for the fine arts would be ridiculous and futile. Instead Dr. Paschall did the best with what he had. He left the Chorus in Mrs. Marion Ross' capable hands.

Mrs. Ross has conducted church choirs and Christmas choirs before, so she knows what she is doing.

She has led the MBA Chorus through a very successful holiday program that included performances at Vine Street Church, Green Hills Mall, the Vanderbilt Stadium Club and the Opryland Hotel as well as Christmas carolling for Fanny Battle. She has done an excellent job in forming twenty young, rambunctious voices into a harmonious group that can sing religious and secular music.

What the Chorus needs is not a new director because we already have that; instead, we need more voices. Right now new members are vital to fill the holes that people have left. The Chorus

is an easy way to learn music and have fun at the same time. Any new students, whether you can sing or not, are welcome to join at the beginning of a new semester. All grades are invited during first period or Activity Period.

After this year four seniors will leave the Chorus. If we continue to have flagging support, if we have more people dropping out because they would rather wash their hands of the situation than make it better, then the Chorus really will die.

Sincerely,  
Breen Frazier

### The Necessity of Presidential Authority to Wage War

Andrew Fitzgerald

With the one year anniversary of the Gulf War comes a public retrospective of the event and the inevitable repeated questioning of the justness of the war and the reasons for which it was waged.

Recently, however, the arguments have focused on the rights of the President of the United States to wage war without the consent of Congress. Article I, section 8 of the Constitution states that only Congress has the right to declare war.

However, the presidents, as Commander in Chiefs of the Armed Forces,

have engaged the United States in wars without a declaration by Congress.

Certain wars, including the Korean War and the Vietnam War, were not declared by the United States. The Presidents at the times of these conflicts, Truman and Johnson, engaged U.S. forces to aid Allies and protect American interests in wars which had already been declared by world powers other than the United States.

The Korean War began on June 25, 1950 when North Korean communist troops invaded South Korea. The U.N. asked all of its

... continued on page 4

### A note from the editors:

*The Bell Ringer* encourages any two people who wish to write opposing views on the same topic to contact the editorial board. The topic can be national in scope, as in this issue, or a topic dealing with local or even school-wide concerns.

### Limiting Presidential Authority to Wage War

Martin Fox

The United States has not been at war since 1945. Why, then, have over 500,000 Americans, as well as millions of people from other countries, been killed as a direct result of our military presence in Korea, Vietnam, Panama and Iraq?

Only Congress can constitutionally declare war. Yet, through presidential decree, lives and money have been wasted without regard

for the people that these "wars" were supposedly fought for.

These military conflicts, in the past 46 years, have been flaunting the constitution that the American presidents have sworn to uphold.

As a result of the Cold War, the president has seized increased power at the expense of the other branches of government, contradicting the principles of the

... continued on page 4

As a result of the Cold War, the president has seized increased power at the expense of other branches of government.

## OPINIONS

...Necessity continued from page 3

member nations to aid South Korea, and the U.S. was only one of sixteen nations to respond.

The Vietnam War was initiated in 1957 when the Viet Cong began to attack the Government of South Vietnam. In 1964 Congress passed the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, which gave the president power "to take all necessary measures to repel any armed attack against the forces of the United States and to prevent further aggression."

Acting under the full authority of this resolution, Lyndon Johnson increased U.S. military commitment six months later. In both cases, the presidents were acting in support of their allies in order to repel aggression and, in doing so, were well within the guidelines of the Constitution.

President Kennedy's prediction that future wars would be small, low intensity conflicts has so

far held true, and because of this truth, new changes in U.S. policy are needed.

The 1980's have seen two such low intensity conflicts: the invasions of Grenada (Operation "Urgent Fury") and Panama (Operation "Just Cause"). In both cases it would have been ridiculous to ask

for Congressional approval before commencing operations. To do so would have meant wasting valuable time and possibly eliminating the element of surprise. Such operations require that the military have freedom to act instantly to aggression. This criterion does not allow waiting for Congressional approval.

In our most recent conflict, the Gulf War, President Bush did indeed receive Congressional approval, but it is fairly safe to assume that

not much would have differed had the Congressional vote been different.

The Gulf War emphasizes the need for reinforcement of executive power to declare war. In Congress, many vote to appease their party rather than to convey the opinions of those they represent, and such action is intolerable when dealing with as serious a matter as war.

This debate of executive power also leaves one very important question unanswered. Does the president have the power to order a single-handedly a retaliation to a nuclear strike? Would the president have to wait for a

Congressional vote to first declare war during such a scenario? If any such hesitation is seen by either side, the stability of mutually assured destruction is lost, and the well-being of our country is put in jeopardy.

The Gulf War emphasizes the need for reinforcement of executive power to declare war.

Does the president have the power to order single-handedly a retaliation to a nuclear strike?

...Limit Presidential Authority from page 3

Constitution itself and threatening to destroy the ideas of the nation's founders in their plans for balance within the government.

We, as citizens, cannot allow this violation. Attempts were made to limit presidential power in 1973, with the passage of the War Powers Act.

This Act was passed at a time when the imperial policies of Nixon had been clearly shown to be disastrous and immoral. However, this act has

been too weak to function effectively.

The conflicts in Vietnam, Korea, and other nations, have left a deep wound in our nation, and ought to have taught us the foolishness of vesting this much power in one person.

However, the War Powers Act has not gone far enough in its action and has been consistently ignored by our presidents.

It provides that the president must inform Congress of any offensive action by the United States, and that Congress must vote to declare war or declare support for the war within 60 days, or military action must cease and all troops must be pulled out of that

area.

Although this is a step in the right direction, it does not go far enough. It concedes the right and responsibility of Congress to declare war and effectively condones and puts into law the powers that the presidents have unconstitutionally taken.

The War Powers Act gives the president too much latitude in terms of the powers

it was designed to restrict. Many lives and much money can be wasted in sixty days,

and by that time it may be impossible to withdraw troops safely.

Thus, I call that Congress insist on its constitutional right to declare war and restrain the president from illegal military action, a duty which it has not done in the past forty-six years.

Congress is more representative of the American people than the president, and it has a solemn responsibility to those people not to allow, by its inaction, the president to entrench us in wars that destroy millions of lives, waste billions of dollars, make little positive change, and proceed against the will of the American people.

Thus, I call that Congress insist on its constitutional right to declare war and restrain the president from illegal military action.

## What? Theater at MBA?

Taylor Wray

When I arrived at school one crisp morning not long ago, I stopped, as usual, at MBA's center of information, an exciting potpourri of upcoming events and announcements known as "The Glass Doors."

As I scanned the masking-tape and paper collage, the standard array of athletic announcements and such, a very unusual item caught my eye—an audition notice.

Not just any audition notice, but one listing audition times for a student-run, Fine Arts Club-sponsored, Montgomery Bell Academy theater production called *What I Did Last Summer* (directed by our very own Shade Murray).

"Oh, joyous day!" I cried, as I did a lively jig about the patio and...All right, so I didn't do a jig. I didn't even shout.

In fact, I knew that the announcement was going to be there. But 'twas indeed a momentous occasion.

"Why?" you ask. Well, you see...

Throughout my four years here at MBA, one of my few gripes about the school has been its lack of extra-curricular (or co-curricular, if you like) opportunities.

Let's face it folks, the football players are practicing.

Acting is a chance *not* to be yourself. There is a rush of excitement involved—Hundreds of eyes are upon you.

cally seen as demigods around here. If its not football, it's basketball, baseball, or even just running a mile to fulfill an athletic requirement—MBA is a very sports oriented school.

Don't get me wrong, I'm not putting down sports. I certainly believe that physical fitness is essential to a healthy body and mind, and I realize that athletics bring to many people a great sense of accomplishment.

But some of us are not as interested in athletics as the average, red-blooded, *Sports Illustrated*-reading MBA student. So what are the other options?

There are MBA publications, three very fine student organizations to which I have contributed over the years and which provide a worthwhile extra-curricular activity for many. In addition, we have an excellent, hard-working debate team for those interested in forensics.

But other than these, well...we have a service club to which one actually has to apply and then be chosen by a selective, unknown membership panel in order to join, which seems to defeat the point of service work. But let's not dwell on that point.

**At last, MBA has entered the realm of dramatic arts.** Theater,

as those who have been involved know, can be a very exciting and rewarding experience which anyone (yes, anyone) can be involved in.

I, having done two plays at a nearby girls' school, personally enjoy performing on stage. Acting is a chance *not* to be yourself. There is a rush of excitement involved—Hundreds of eyes are upon you. Will the audience like you? Only their applause will tell.

But for those who don't particularly want to be in the spotlight, well...they can operate the spotlight. Or be stage manager. Or help build the set, paint the set, operate the sound board, help with costumes, be in charge of publicity, or get involved in any of the other hundreds of aspects of putting on a play.

I think that being

involved with a school activity and feeling a part of something are important to most people. Everyone must find where he or she belongs and fits in, and I feel that a theatrical production is a pretty darn good place to start looking. I applaud Mr. Murray for taking the initiative in organizing the production.

I am glad to finally see a project which the Fine Arts Club can actually "put its hands on." In addition, I wish the cast and crew of *What I Did Last Summer* the best of luck. The surprising amount of student interest in the production indicates to me that there is indeed a place for this type of activity at MBA and gives a hopeful start to what I see as a step in the right direction.



## OPINIONS

The Gentleman Redux

Dr. Wayne Batten

Each day as I enter Carter Hall, the motto "gentleman, scholar, athlete" impresses me afresh with the force of the Ten Commandments similarly inscribed in stone by divine decree.

Each time, I reflect that anyone who feels good at being an athlete may feel bad at not being a scholar, and vice versa. Anyone, however, no matter how stupid or awkward, may aspire to be a gentleman.

The tradition of gentility goes back at least as far as the late 1100's, when the gentillesse of the knights and courtiers came to be highly regarded.

By Shakespeare's time, a man of modest wealth could purchase the status and title of gentleman. During the eighteenth century, the cult of sentimentality constructed the charming image of the peasant or laborer who evinced the tender feelings and politeness previously associated only with people of some wealth and education.

Practically speaking, gentlefolk were those whose income was sufficiently substantial and secure to enable them to resist the petty pressures of life.

Cushioned by money, they could achieve a certain grace in their manner, tip generously, even pay the farmer whose fields they ruined by fox hunting. Politeness was a standard by which the middle class measured

Each time, I reflect that anyone who feels good at being an athlete may feel bad at not being a scholar, and vice versa. Anyone, however, no matter how stupid or awkward, may aspire to be a gentleman.

itself against the nobility: to aspire to higher status was to pretend, at least, to noblesse oblige, as well as the carefree ton of the wealthy aristocrat.

As a standard for conduct in our time, however, gentility is obsolete. I see no reason to demand the same politeness of a minimum-wage worker as of a lawyer earning over a hundred dollars an hour.

Moreover, concern for the feelings of others does not mean much unless it is translated into action. Pre-

serve me from the man of deep sensitivity but no backbone. As a guide for conduct, I have not yet found any axiom better than "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." Append to it Dostoyevsky's "Everyone is responsible to everyone for everything." The standard is high.

A gentleman, redefined, is someone who tries to understand and take responsibility for the effects of his actions, or lack of action, on other people, not just on members of his class. Hearing the screams of a rape victim, he does not neglect to call 911.

He does not join in the ridicule of innocent or helpless people. Like Macbeth before his tragic error, he dares do all a man may do, but no more: he understands and enforces how to say "no" and keep his word. If necessary, he goes against his peers, his society, even his government when his conscience directs him.

A clear conscience, a strong will, and a tender heart—let's contemplate him there, gazing at his hometown through the bars of the jail and feeling totally free.



photo by Justin Crosslin

## The True Spirit of MBA

## Rivalry?

Andrew Vahrenkamp

Throughout history a variety of sports rivalries have existed: Harvard-Yale, Giants-Dodgers, and Vandy-UT. In the local vein, MBA once had a strong rivalry against the "Evil Empire," Father Ryan; however, in these days of collapsing Cold Wars, the rivalry has staled somewhat.

Mostly, the blame should fall on the degeneration of Ryan's athletic program. As of this writing, of the seven times the Big Red and Irish have fought, MBA was the victor six times. In football, swimming, cross-country, golf, and basketball, the contests have been no contest. Gerry DiNardo stated that a rivalry cannot exist when one team has such dominance, and even

though he was referring to Vandy-UT, the words apply here, too. By looking some recent scores, 41-0 in football, 113-53 in swimming, and by 20 strokes in golf, one can see that either we are really good, or they are really bad. This is hardly a rivalry.

Of course, there is no one else we would rather beat than Ryan. However, it must be discouraging to them when they keep losing to us, badly.

So, it might be in the best interests of both Father Ryan and ourselves that we find more worthy adversaries, someone we can compete with, like Brentwood Academy. Then maybe, our cannons will be safe.

## The Bell Ringer

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## Skipworth salutes Bo Bartholomew!

Bo is the president of the senior class, a member of Totomoi, President of FCA, a co-captain of the wrestling team, Patrick Wilson, and the business editor for the Bell. Montgomery Bell Academy Nashville, Tennessee

## ENTERTAINMENT

# Better Dead Than Commercial !!!

Eric Greenwood

**A**lternative music is dead. Anything that was once held sacred as a part of the underground scene has been exploited by powerful record companies. The major labels have realized the importance of what used to be alternative music, and are now turning it all into a commercial industry.

The problem isn't with the record companies as much as it is all of the ignorant posers who are now buying "alternative" music so that people will think that they are "different". This is utterly ridiculous. The whole purpose of the independent

scene is to be an alternative to all of the crap that fills the airways, not to be an outlet for all these socially retarded kids who need something to call their own. I have observed this process which has destroyed, in my opinion, some of the best bands around. I am amazed by the fact that somebody that is considered a "preppie" and goes to a private school can suddenly grow long hair and put on combat boots and be considered a "punk". This trend is quite prevalent here at MBA. A bunch of clueless kids suddenly think that they know something about the music

scene, and decide to become punks. Let me reveal a little secret- punk is dead! Too many people like it. If it's popular, it isn't punk. The whole idea of punk was to shock and appall the masses, but now the masses like it! A prime example of a band that was ruined by the sudden trendiness of punk is Jane's Addiction. I still think that their music is brilliant, but I'm glad that they broke up. Too many people jumped on the bandwagon. Jane's Addiction themselves realized that this was happening, thank God, and before it got

too much out of hand they quit. MTV is not helping the situation either. I was disgusted to see punk songstress Siouxsie Sioux in a "hit block" on MTV back to back with C + C Music Factory and Nelson. The recent success of Nirvana is pretty ironic considering the fact that most of the people buying their records are the type of people that Nirvana is satirizing in their lyrics. It just goes to show the ignorance of the American public. Before too long the whole independent scene will be dead because of this ignorance. Ev-

ery band in the world is now moving to Seattle and growing their hair long because they think it will make them as successful as Nirvana. Nirvana's success has nothing to do with where they came from, it is based on the fact that they are better than just about any band around right now. As for the future of music, it is looking pretty grim. Bands are selling out left and right- it's all getting out of hand. I can only hope that the bands that I have faith in can retain their dignity.

## Hase Exhibit visits MBA

Seth Robertson

**D**uring the months of December and January, Montgomery Bell Academy hosted an art show unique to the Nashville area.

In fact, this exhibition of Heinz Hase's works within the Patrick Wilson Library was the first of its kind in the United States. Never before had Hase presented his watercolors and etchings in an American show.

Born in the Leipzig region of Germany during the

1920's, Heinz Hase has witnessed the rise and fall of Communism within the Eastern bloc countries. Many of his Impressionistic watercolors, therefore, depict daily life in Eastern Europe.

Hase, however, has also travelled around the world. His experiences within such countries as Vietnam, Greece, and Cuba have provided subject matter for much of his artwork on exhibit.



### Skipworth salutes Brett Sanders!

Brett is a member of Totomoi and a co-captain of the wrestling team. He has qualified for the state wrestling tournament four times and was the 1991 runner-up.

## Country Corner

Greg Holyfield

**Y**ee-haw - that's what they were yelling at Garth Brooks' sold out concert at Murphy Center.

Trent Baittie, Andy Anderton, Bo Mixon, and I trekked out there to see the show. We all went in Bo's toy jeep.

After sitting in traffic a while, Bo said "forget this

stuff", or something like that, and bolted into the passing lane, hoping somebody would let us back into the right lane.

No one did, so Bo almost killed us by cutting in front of an awesome doolie.

Our adrenaline was pumpin', and we were a'hollerin'.

Garth was awesome, and it was a big party. The house was a'gettin' kinda crazy.

He sang most of his big songs, including "Friends in Low Places", "Two of a Kind", "Workin' on a Full House", "Unanswered Prayers", "Rodeo", and "Shameless".

He really had the juice that night. Garth ran around on the stage whoopin' and yellin'.

He even climbed a rope (I didn't think he's gonna do it at first, but he did).

This was da best concert I ever saw. He put so much work and power into da show. This makes me like him a lot.

A couple of days before the Garth concert, Todd Counter and I went to see Clint Black perform at the state-of-the-art Municipal Auditorium.

Todd was lookin' real good. Clint Black was also a great concert.

Montgomery Bell Academy was very fortunate to place these works on exhibit. Hase's vivid watercolors and decided etchings have given the school community a unique look into cultures foreign to the United States.

Hopefully, M.B.A. will gain the opportunity to host more art shows of this magnitude in the future.

*Where have all the posers gone,  
Long time passing,  
Where have all the posers gone,  
Long time ago?  
Where have all the posers gone?  
Gone to MBA everyone.  
When will they ever learn,  
When will they ever learn?*

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## ENTERTAINMENT

## Swim Team Cont'd...

... moderate sixth place despite the absence of several key swimmers.

However, the swim team continued the winning in a quad-meet participated in by M.B.A., Gallatin, Hillwood, and Hume-Fogg. The Green Wave ebbed under the powerful influence of the Big Red, and M.B.A. regained its dominance at the expense of Gallatin. The final score was M.B.A. 128, Gallatin 112, Hillwood 13, Hume-Fogg 12.

After the win over Gallatin, M.B.A. proceeded to the Mid-state Region Meet, and for the first time in the history of the school, the swim team returned with the trophy of Mid-State champions.

The aura in the Tracy Caulkin's Competition Pool on the first of February was that of competition. The swimmers who lined up behind their lanes were no slouches, for several of them will proceed to Nationals in March and the Olympics in '96.

Huge teams like Brentwood proudly displayed such signs as "Eight years and counting boy's

mid-state champions" and other statements of their stately swimming reign that was soon to collapse. Nevertheless, the competition was stiff, especially considering that M.B.A. had only 12 swimmers in comparison to the 30 or 40 swimmers on other teams.

Hendersonville took the lead early despite Bo Sundius's winning the 200 yd freestyle and setting a new meet record of 1:47.12 and Alan Sundell's getting sixteenth in the same event.

Andrew Publow placed fifth and Sam Kuykendall placed eighth in the 200 yd I.M.

Thomas Lee and Brad Maggart swam impressive 50 yd freestyles, with Lee's placing second, missing first by only fourteen hundredths of a second, and Maggart's placing seventh.

Kozi Kozomara placed seventh in the 100 yd butterfly with Sam Kuykendall's placing ninth and Brad Maggart's placing sixteenth.

After Thomas Lee took third in the 100 yd freestyle, the tables had turned, and

M.B.A. no longer trailed Hendersonville but only the traditional Brentwood Bruins.

Into the grueling 500 yd freestyle dove Bo Sundius, placing first, and Howard Rietz, placing ninth. By far the most exciting relay ever swum, the M.B.A. 200 yd freestyle relay of Kozomara, Rietz, Maggart, and Sundius tied Brentwood's relay for first and missed the record by only twelve hundredths of a second.

Andrew Publow took fourth in the 100 yd backstroke, and Kozi won the 100 yd breaststroke, setting a new record of 1:02.74. Alan Sundell with fifth place and Flagg Youngblood with a twelfth place in the breaststroke helped gain crucial points which brought M.B.A. into the lead.

The 400 yd freestyle relay concluded the meet with third place for the Big Red, ensuring the Championship trophy. The final score was M.B.A. 299, Brentwood 270, Hendersonville 270, Oakland 224, and Gallatin 213. The M.B.A. swim team now proceeds to the state where it hopefully can continue its winning ways.

## Wrestling Cont'd...

... this time against Glencliff and Lipscomb. That weekend the team travelled to Cleveland and the exotic Chalet Motel in order to compete in the prestigious Cleveland Dual Tournament. Although posting a 1-3 record in the tournament, the team still managed a fourth-place finish out of the eight teams, which isn't too bad after three consecutive meals at Shoney's. A few days later the team had

its first hard district match against Hillwood. The match was decided in the final bout with Hillwood ending up on top. It was MBA's first district loss of the year but the loss taught the team that they had a way to go in order to be able to be competitive in the district. The team's final matches before Christmas came the weekend after the holiday vacations began. While most of the school was

skiing or sunbathing, the Big Red wrestlers were competing in the Overton Tournament. The school came in sixth out of nineteen teams led by Sanders in first place, Bo Bartholomew (189) in second place, and Uden in third place. Having only completed the first half of the season, the wrestlers still have a long way to go, but are confident that by the end of the year they will be ready for region.

## Junior Varsity Basketball

Taylor Harris

The junior varsity basketball team is off to a good start for the '91-'92 season. A few weeks ago, Coach Downey said that the team should look at five games before Christmas as a small season in itself. The J.V. team

set a goal to follow the advice and to begin the year with a 5-0 record.

Unfortunately, after defeating Father Ryan and Hillwood by margins of 15 and 32 points respectively, the junior varsity lost by three points to an athletic Pearl-

Cohn team.

Members of the J.V. team include Andy Barrett, Ben Corbett, Will Coles, Robert West, Andy Ward, Parkes Owen, Larry Underwood, and Taylor Harris.

## \*\* Live \*\*

Todd Anderson

In the past year of 1991, with such a large number of alternative bands gaining wide spread acceptance (Nirvana, Teenage Fan Club, Primus, etc.), a York, PA based band must be included. Live, the four members in their early teens and early twenties, have been playing together for about six years. Their music is not a blend of styles as is so common with every other band putting in their two cents worth of funk. Patrick Dahleimer, the bassist, does get in his share of slapping and popping. Live's music combines Patrick's energetic and melodic bass playing with the understated lyrics are brilliant and subtly descriptive. His passionate vocals and understated acoustic guitar make the music honest and homogeneous. Edward's lyrics bring mysticism and conviction rarely seen in music today. There is no attempt to cover up the singing in the mix or mask it with electronic effects, which makes the attention Edward pays to detail more listenable. The theme of the album is its title, Mental Jewerly. Edward says that the mental jewelry referred to in the album title and in "Mirror Song" are

the unimportant details of life which are deemed important by society. In "Mirror Song" Edward embraces this theme in the lyrics "What about my band account/ and my holy desert shield/ that keep me dry under the arms?/ flags and mental jewelry's all I know/ and they keep me happy and warm inside." Live's songs feature powerful choruses to reinforce the nature of the lyrics.

Live's energy and passion should not be missed live either. I saw them in Lancaster, PA, their home turf in the club where their video "Operation Spirit" (A "buzz clip" on MTV) was filmed. The mild-mannered, intelligent, young Live blew me away with their performance. Their music had a groove large enough to engulf the entire club. I have never seen an entire club react to and with the band as I did with Live. Live's album and 4-song EP display accessibility to the mass but their music is too intelligent and eclectic to be considered popular. Of course, Nirvana never expected the posers that they pummel in "Smells Like Teen spirit" to boost their album to number one.

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## SPORTS

## Swim Team Wins Region

Bo Sundius



photo by Justin Cronin  
GQ Makes His Move



photo by Russell Acosta  
The Microbe Basketball Team

The M.B.A. swim team has had an incredible year and it is still not over. The swim team composed of Ryan Brunkardt, John Hearn, Jeremy Kane, Kozi Kozomara, Sam Kuykendall, Thomas Lee, Brad Maggart, Joey Martinez, Adam Nadeau, Andrew Publow, Howard Rietz, Jonathan Spencer, Alan Sundell, Bo Sundius, and Flagg Youngblood has risen from obscurity to become a mid-state powerhouse to be reckoned with.

The season started in late October with the commencement of swim practice, held at the Centennial Sportsplex. Despite the odd practice times, the presence of Harpeth Hall and strict determination kept the M.B.A. swimmers in top shape.

The competition began with a bang for the al-

mighty Big Red, pummeling the floundering Irish of Father Ryan in every event. The swim team's only loss, to Laverne, who brought four-times as many swimmers as the Red, was avenged later in the Regional Swim Meet.

M.B.A. then swam against the highly favored Brentwood High Bruins in "the most exciting and suspenseful dual meet ever seen," as said by Don Sundius, one of the team's coaches and organizers. Due to the perfection of the M.B.A. swimmers, the four-time state champion Bruins fell short and suffered their first loss in several years with a final score of 93 to 74.

In the Hendersonville Excel Invitational, the Big Red swim team placed a



photo by Justin Cronin  
Joe "Jordan" Underwood takes to the air



photo by Justin Cronin  
Out of the gates, it's David Fitzgerald by a nose!

Continued on page Seven...

## MBA Wrestling

Sonny Heiser

The '91-'92 wrestling season is coming to a close in the next few weeks so for those of you who haven't attended many, or more likely, any matches this year, I will quickly recap the season. Our usual Brentwood High match before Thanksgiving to start the season had to be cancelled this year due to a Ringworm epidemic among their team. Therefore, the season opened with matches against Antioch and Beech at home. The Big Red won both matches and it looked as if we

would do well in the Hendersonville Tournament that weekend. However, many seniors had to take Achievement Tests that day and were not able to compete. Wrestlers who placed in the tournament were Jim Uden (103) second, Glenn Gaston (112) first, and Brett Sanders (140) third. Brett had his first and only loss of the regular season at this tournament. The following weekend, the team won another two matches...

Continued on page Seven...

## GOLF TEAM WINS WEENIE BOWL IN 42-0 SMASH!!!

Brent Miller

A few Sundays ago on a chilly afternoon, the members of the Cross-Country Team and the Golf Team suited up for the annual Weenie Bowl Competition.

The two teams warmed up during a pre-game show while the members of the golf team tried to regain their confidence that had been demolished by the intimidation of Justin, "Juice," "Joker," "Jason," Crosslin.

The golf team won the toss and elected to kick off to a Cross-Country Team

which was a well-practiced, well-developed team which sported names like David "the Mediator" Wyckoff and his younger brother, John "Spittin' Mad" Crosslin. Scott "Happy-Go-Lucky" Hande, Jason "20 yard loss" Barton, Frazier "I can't believe we're losing this badly" Buntin, and some other underclassmen.

After the opening kickoff by Ben Curtis, the outcome of the game was evident. The first play of the game turned out to be an interception caused by an over-

whelming rush by the golf team's 200+ lbs. linemen. After the first offensive play by the golf team, the score was 7-0 (golf). Then the golf team kicked off again and the rest of the game repeated itself with the final score 42-0, with the cross-country team ending the game with -50 yards and 4 interceptions.

Outstanding players for the golf team included: Brent Miller, Roe Elam, Greg Jones, Tommy Lawrence, and Drew Patterson.

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